News and Notes

 Lutherans For Life would like to welcome three new board of directors members to our team!



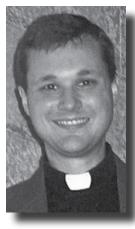
Laura Davis is the daughter of a Lutheran pastor and a Lutheran preschool teacher from Katy, Texas. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Texas A&M University in 2010 and is currently working toward a Master of Public Service and Administration at A&M's Bush School of Government and Public Service, with an emphasis on non-profit management. She is a volunteer and sidewalk counselor with the Brazos Valley Coalition for Life and an active member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League,

serving as a zone young women's representative. She is currently completing an internship at a pregnancy resource center in Lynnwood, Washington. In addition to her pro-life interests, Laura also enjoys singing in her church's praise team and choir.



Stephenie Hovland was born and raised in southern Wisconsin. She received her Lutheran teaching degree from Concordia University – Wisconsin. She has been teaching, playing the organ, and volunteering at churches (in Missouri, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) since she was a teenager. Her husband, Greg, is an LCMS pastor. They currently serve Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Green Bay where their two teen girls attend Lutheran schools. Now a

part-time teacher, Stephenie has found more time to volunteer in her church and write devotions, curriculum, and children's books. She is a Life Advocate and participates in prayer vigils outside a local abortion provider.



Pastor Evan McClanahan is the pastor of First Evangelical Lutheran Church near downtown Houston, Texas. From Shreveport, Louisiana, he attended Centenary College of Louisiana, earning a B.A. in music. Following two years of work as an executive recruiter, he attended the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago for his M.Div. Before moving to Houston, he was an associate pastor at Living Word Lutheran in Grapevine, Texas. Since arriving in Houston, he has focused on a ministry to community college students and young adults, especially those who struggle with unexpected pregnancies. He and his wife Amanda married in 2006, and they have two young children, Adalyn Rose and Alister Gregory.

- Looking ahead to 2012 Life Sunday! The theme for this year's Sanctity of Life Sunday is: **Trust God! Choose Life!** Life Sunday sample packs will be in the mail in October with ordering information and a sample of the bulletin insert. If you don't receive one, please contact the national office and we will send you a copy.
- We mentioned in our last issue of *Directons* that we have partnered with Churches for Life (CFL) to use materials to help train Life Advocates, Life Teams, and Regional Directors. If you would like more information on CFL visit their website at www. getintolife.org or call the Life Center at 888-364-5433.
- 2012 National LFL Conference! Equipping the Saints For Life Ephesians 4:11-12. LFL's 2012 conference will provide a variety of ways to become equipped "For Life" personally and also to learn how to participate in the equipping of others. There will be a special emphasis on Renewal For Life®, LFL's initiative to equip Lutheran congregations to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. Mark your calendars! Come ready to be equipped! You will leave ready to equip!



August 3-4, 2012

Eaglewood Resort & Spa, Itasca, Illinois

Keynote speaker: Rev. Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of The Lutheran Hour Check out our 2012 conference page for more details and registration information as they become available.

New Resources from Lutherans For Life!



Life Issues and the Pulpit – Author Jim Lamb, in this letter to fellow pastors, writes, "I offer this as a brotherly discussion of matters of the heart ... Before you get started on this little booklet, I ask you to keep a few things in mind: The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the most powerful and positive For Life message in the universe! Addressing the Life Issues is the responsibility of the Church and her pastors for they are spiritual and theological issues. The Church and her pastors have what it takes—the Gospel! One more thing: Lutherans For Life truly wants to help

you!" Item LFL1629B. \$1.00 ea.



Christ and Adoption – Adoption is not always seen in a good light. Even well-meaning Christians may contribute to the problem. "What mother would give away her baby?" The perception is that adoption is abandonment, a bad choice that is not very loving. There is a need to shed some good light on adoption. Perhaps looking at it in the light of our adoption in Christ will help. *Item LFL504T*. **\$0.50 ea.**

Note: November is National Adoption Awareness Month.







Confessions of an Executive Director – Author James Lamb shares his life-changing experiences from a 1996 trip to Romania. "It was not at all what I expected. She sat on the floor, back against the wall. Fear filled her eyes and tears spilled over. It was not at all what I expected from a woman waiting to have an abortion …" Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb is executive director of Lutherans For Life. *Item LFL407T.* **\$0.50 ea.**

Amor Real/Vida Real - This unique 30" x 6" 10-panel fold out brochure (the Spanish version of *Real Love Real Life*) covers fetal development, abortion facts, love and friendship, teen pregnancy, STDs, purity/chastity and sexuality, and safe choices. *Item 615T-S.* **\$1.00 ea.**

L.I.F.E. T-shirts – Sizes: adult small-XL, \$10.00; adult 2X, \$12.00; Colors: Oxford Grey, Military Green, Lime Green, Sapphire Blue, and Tangerine.

To order call the LFL Life Center: 888-364-LIFE. This item is not available through CPH. Shipping and handling applies to all orders. All orders must be prepaid. Quantities limited. Front: LIFE – Living In Faith Everyday;

Back: 1 Timothy 4:12

- Long-time LFL member Donna Zuehlk has produced a wonderful new book called *God's Word and Song For the Suffering*. Believing that our hymnal is a rich source of Lutheran doctrine as well as comfort for all ages, this collection of traditional hymns and the Bible verses that inspired them has been completed. It is small enough to tuck into a Bible or purse for hospital visits and it also includes the Offertory, Nunc Dimittis, and Agnus Dei. (8.5" by 5.5" 32 pages) To order, contact Donna Zuehlk, 13613 27 Mile Road, Washington, MI 48094; bzuehlk@comcast.net; 586-781-3986. The cost is \$5.00 and includes shipping.
- Our remaining stock of selected Life Sunday and Just For Kids inserts are on sale! Stock up now and save—and share the For Life message all year long! The Just For Kids inserts are a great way to share the For Life message with children. They are a great resource for Sunday school, VBS (stock up for next summer!), children's coloring bags, and more! Order today! When these inserts are gone, they are gone. Finished. Done. No more. Out of stock. Order today at www.cph.org!

Life Sunday Bulletin Insert Sale

In Life, in Death, Abide with Me
In the Hand of God
Jesus Loves Children
Just Imagine ... what will this baby be?
Cherish the Children
Good News For Life
Life Under the Cross

Just For Kids Bulletin Insert Sale

Good News For Life
Welcome A Little Child
Life Under the Cross
Time To Speak
Just Imagine
In the Beginning
Abide With Me
Cherish the Children
In the Hand of God

• All of our remaining stock of promotional products are on sale at 50% off! Order today at www.cph.org and share at local fairs, events, VBS, and Sunday school! Quantities are limited.

PENS ("God Loves Life") – This popular and comfortable tri-sided pen has different Lutherans For Life information on each of the three sides including "God Loves Life - John 3:16." This pen will never roll off the table! Black ink, medium point, blue translucent coloring, black ergonomic grippers, metal tip.

TOTE BAGS (Plastic) 11" x 15" – Great for fairs and conventions.

The opportunities for LFL supporters, state federations, chapters, Life Teams, and Life
Ministry Coordinators to apply the Life message are endless. For example, November
is National Adoption Awareness Month. Check out and order LFL's resources on
adoption and share them with your congregation—booklets, brochures, bulletin insert,
and Christmas ornament.

Here's one more. **Orphan Sunday** (orphansunday.org) is **November 6**. The Christian Alliance for Orphans (www.christianalliancefororphans.org) offers a wealth of resources to help Christians stand for the orphan ... defend the fatherless ... care for the child that has no family ... visit orphans in their distress.

More info can be found at the adoption and links pages at www.lutheransforlife.org. Also check out the summer edition of *LifeDate* (Adopted in Christ).

National Lutherans For Life Staff

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb – Executive Director George Munyon – Director of Operations Lowell J. Highby – Director of Communications

Kay Meyer – Director of Development James P. Schroeder – Christian Estate Planning Counselor

Trisha Adams – Business Manager and National Conference Director

Amy O'Shaughnessy – Administrative Assistant

Jerilyn Richard – Renewal For Life Coordinator

Kim Nessa – RFL Administrative Assistant Katie Friedrich – Office Assistant

National LFL Board of Directors

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Abortion Statistics for the United States: 3,287 abortions per day Abortions from 1973-2006 (using the 2003 estimate for 2004-2006): 47,187,00.

Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute.



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Leadership

The 360 Degree Leader

By Diane E. Schroeder, President of National Lutherans For Life

You may not think so, but all of us are in leadership. No matter what you do in Lutherans For Life—Federation, Chapter, LMC, Life Advocate—you are in the business of leadership. Leadership is more than just learning how to delegate and hold people accountable; it is really about relationships. Bill Hybels, head pastor of Willowcreek Church in Barrington, Illinois, coined the above phrase and he divides leadership into several areas:

Self-leading • Leading up • Lateral leading • Leading down

Self-Leadership is the most important because leadership flows from a motivated heart. Self-leadership is the personal responsibility of a leader and critical to their success. Some questions to evaluate yourself:

- 1. Is my calling sure?
- 2. Is my vision crystal clear?
- 3. Is my passion burning hot?
- 4. Am I constantly in prayer and the Word seeking God's direction?

If you answered no to any of these questions, you need to work on self-leadership.

Leading Up: Every time you ask a pastor, teacher, or church leader to become involved with Lutherans For Life you are leading up. Tips to remember:

- 1. Know your stuff and your job. Be knowledgeable and prepared to equip others to be able to do ministry.
- 2. Approach with an attitude of humility, cooperation, and with a servant heart.
- 3. Establish a relationship. Influence and relationship are inseparable.

Leading Laterally to fellow LFLers—the key is servanthood. No one is better than another. Speak the truth in love and then hold each other accountable for both performance and attitude.

Leading Down: When you talk to fellow church members, neighbors, etc. about life issues, you are leading down. Please keep these three things in mind:

- 1. Others are created in God's image and are His treasure even if they don't agree with you.
- 2. Be humble and not prideful.
- 3. Cast a compelling vision—know your stuff and be passionate!

So, remember when you get tired and frustrated, that God has called you to the work of Lutherans For Life. You are serving God, so serve Him with passion and excellence. Get back to the basics! Be a leader. Study God's Word, pray, evaluate your culture, and then strategize what you will do to fulfill your calling. Don't worry about the results—be faithful and let God handle the rest.

Directions • Lutherans For Life • Development

Let's Pray for Life

by Kay L. Meyer

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7). "[D]o not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6).

I'm interested in learning how many of our LFL state federations, chapters, LMCs, and RFL Life Teams have a prayer committee or team that prays on a regular basis for life issues, state leaders, LFL chapters leaders, and Renewal For Life needs and the needs of others who are speaking up for life. If you don't have a prayer committee, I would encourage you to establish one. Why? Because issues of life are under attack and we are in a spiritual battle. And prayer is one of the offensive weapons the Lord has given us. Ephesians 6:18-19 says, "[P]raying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel."

Let's pray for our president to change his mind on life issues and grow in faith and the knowledge of God's Word! Let's pray for the young women who are pregnant and considering an abortion. Let's pray for the woman, married for 50 years to a man who is dying and at life's end. Let's pray for parents who are raising special children. And let's pray that the United States of America stops making laws that are contrary to God's Word.

Also remember that many congregations have established prayer chains or committees. Why not get them involved? If you are not familiar with prayer chains, a prayer is given to one of the prayer leaders, normally by phone. That leader prays for this request and then passes the prayer request on to the next person on the list by phone. That person prays and then passes the prayer request on to the next person. And the list goes on. Some today may also use the Internet to pass on prayers. Why not send prayers about life issues to the people on your congregation's prayer committee? By doing this you will get more people involved in praying for life. God answers the prayers of His people.

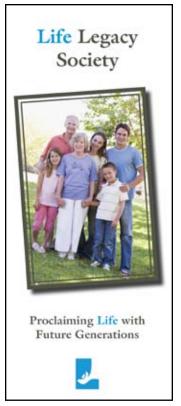
Also consider coordinating a prayer vigil for your congregation or Life team. When a board I used to serve on organized prayer vigils we included time for the three different types of prayer the Bible tells us about. They include: individual prayer time (Matthew 6:6-7), small group prayer time (Matthew 18:20), and corporate prayer time (Acts 12:3-12). We would ask for and accept prayer requests from anyone in the congregation during the weeks prior to the prayer vigil. Many people who might not stand up and ask for prayer for a pregnant daughter or granddaughter, will submit an index card with a prayer request when given the opportunity. Another idea is to organize a prayer breakfast and invite a speaker who can address one of the many topics related to life. Look at the LFL Speaker's Bureau page to find guest speakers. There is probably one who lives near you.

So, let's pray because God hears and answers our prayers! (2 Chronicles 7:12)

Directions • Lutherans For Life • Development

Life Legacy

In the summer of 2011 Lutherans For Life established *Life Legacy*. *Life Legacy* will recognize everyone who has put LFL into their will, estate, trust, or created a gift annuity. Some of you have let us know that you have put LFL into your estate. Thank you. Others of you have put LFL into your estate or will, but have not let us know that you have done this yet. Please let us know if you have put us into your will. Some of you may be thinking about putting LFL into your will, but would like some assistance. If you need help with your estate plans, please let us know. Jim Schroeder of the LCMS Foundation or I would be happy to visit with you by phone or in person. We can also connect you to other professionals who might assist you. I can be reached at kmeyer@lutheransforlife.org. Jim can be reached at jschroeder@lutheransforlife.org. To receive a Life Legacy brochure and learn more about it, call the Life Center at 888.364.LIFE.



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Bible Studies

An Introductory Vacation Story

by Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb

One particular point on the hiking trail to Ruby Jewel Lake reminds me of the conclusion of Robert Frost's *The Road not Taken*. "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference."



At this point, the trail appears to go straight ahead. The way is wide and well worn. It looks like everyone goes that way.

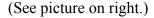
(See picture on left.)

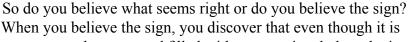


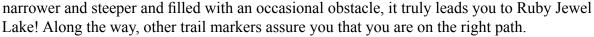
One would not even pause to think about it if it were not for the trail markers on a dead tree to the right of the path. Both indicate you should turn right.

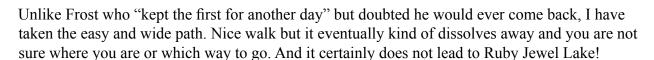
(See picture on right.)

Your skepticism increases when you look to the right and note that this way is not well traveled and a fallen tree even blocks your path.









Devotional Bible Study

Read Proverbs 14:12. Discuss this in light of the above story. In the life arena, discuss some "easy" paths that our culture points us to when we deal with difficult situations like a crisis pregnancy or the pain and suffering of the elderly, etc. Where do such paths end?

Where does the idea come from that the culture's paths are right paths? (See Proverbs 16:25.) How does this relate to Genesis 3:5?

Read Psalm 119:105 and Isaiah 30:21. What is the "sign" that points us in the right direction? Does the right way always seem like the right way? (See Matthew 7:13-14; Jeremiah 12:1.)



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Bible Studies

What are those "other markers" along the way that assure us—in spite of our feelings sometimes—that we are on the right way? (2 Peter 1:3-4)

But how do we know these are true? (2 Corinthians 1:20; Romans 8:32)

What were the early Christians sometimes called? (Act 19:9, 23; 24:14; 24:22) Why was that? (John 14:6)

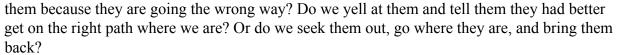
What is our "Ruby Jewell Lake"? (2 Corinthians 5:1; 2 Timothy 4:8)

One of the responsibilities of the Church is to point people to the right way. (The picture on the right shows Jamie and Zane pointing the right way for "Grampy.") Discuss how this is to be done based on the following: 2 Timothy 3:16; Ephesians 4:15.

What about those who go the wrong way; how are we to treat them? (Galatians 6:1-2)

Read Luke 10:1-2. How does this, and the ensuing three parables, relate to the "two roads" that diverged in the woods and those who get lost by going the wrong way? Relate this to the life issues.

So, just to be sure you've gotten the point, if someone is on the wrong path, how do we get them on the right path? Do we yell at



The life issues present us with opportunities to point people in the right way, the way of Jesus and the truth of His Word. The life issues present us with opportunities to bring Jesus and His compassion to people who are hurting and struggling. The life issues present us with opportunities to bring people to Jesus and the healing and restoring message of His salvation. The life issues present us with opportunities to have others join us at "Ruby Jewel Lake."

Discuss what you might be able to do in your congregation to help people move from seeing the life issues as just political and social issues to seeing them as opportunities to share the Gospel of the Lord of Life.



Lutherans For Life 2011 National Conference

IRVING, TEXAS – Adopted in Christ was the theme as nearly 200 Lutherans gathered, August 5-6, from across the United States—with special guests from Australia—for the national conference of Lutherans For Life (LFL).

In her welcoming address to conference attendees, President Diane Schroeder said, "Our job as the Church and For Life Christians is to make sure that our Lutheran men and women never need to walk into CareNet [pregnancy



center]. Not that they will never make mistakes because we all do, but because they know that for them abortion is never an option ... Our people need to know that there is a way to handle these difficult situations that is pleasing to God. It is so important that the Church talk about these issues. If our people do not hear this message of truth and compassion from their church, they are vulnerable to the voice of the culture that says death is the answer to life's unpleasant situations."

Dr. Russell D. Moore, author of *Adopted for Life: The Priority of Adoption for Christian Families*, said in his Friday night keynote address, "If we as pro-life people can understand that the issue of orphan care—whether that's advocating for unborn orphans, or advocating for born orphans in the United States or around the world—is not simply stopping bad things from happening to children ... Instead, there is also a deeper issue here, which is that our advocacy for women and children who are under assault by forces so dark and evil that we cannot even contemplate it, can teach us and show us how to be the Church, how to embrace the Gospel, how to live in the unity of the Spirit—and we see something of what this looks like by what the Spirit is doing in the life of Joseph ...

"The Scripture says that when someone is adopted into the family of God, he or she is not some other kind of child. This person is now seated at the table with all the relationship to the Father ... with all of the inheritance that is received in Jesus Christ. We see that first in the life of our Lord Himself when Joseph really and truly becomes His father through adoption. When we care for orphans, through adoption and foster care, and through other kinds of ministries to orphans, when we advocate for children whose lives are in jeopardy through abortion and through other ways, what we are recognizing is that we are doing so as ex-orphans ourselves who have been rescued through the Gospel. And we are also recognizing that when a child is adopted into a family there is a real family formed there. Our entire Gospel is at stake in that recognition because there is no such thing as an 'adopted child,' only children who were adopted. 'Adopted' in the New Testament is a past-tense verb, not an adjective."

Friday also featured a concert by singer/songwriter Heather Ruesch. Heather's "Bella" story can found here.

Saturday morning included the showing of the award-winning film, *Bella*, followed by a plenary session with Dr. Kurt Senske on *The Lessons of "Bella" – Affirming Life Via Our Own Personal Calling*.

Workshops, led by Jean Amundson with a panel of family members, and Jeannette Clausen, on *Adoption:* Not First Choice, but a Choice of Love, focused on different aspects of adoption. Col. John Eidsmoe discussed Preachers and Politics: What Does the IRS Allow? Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb explored In Vitro Fertilization—Promise or Peril? And Dr. Kurt Senske lead a workshop on A Picture of Possibilities—Strategies to Live Out Our Calling.

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, LFL executive director, in his opening worship sermon, focused on the conference theme, based on Galatians 4:4-5. "Adopted in Christ—it is this relationship of having a God we can call Father, that moves us to be obedient to our Father who is God. Adopted in Christ—it is this relationship of having a God we can call Father that moves us not to just be against what our culture of death is for, but to be for what our Father who is God is for. That's what is being expressed in LFL's mission statement, 'Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life' ... The relationship that God, who is our Father, established in Christ through adoption motivates us to be bold voices in the life arena. Neither our successes nor failures as His voices For Life have anything to do with attaining or maintaining our relationship with God as His children. He has taken care of that. We live in the midst of our victories in the For Life arena, in the midst of our defeats, in the midst of our frustrations assured of His love, His forgiveness, and eternal life ... God adopted you in Christ. You have a God who is your father. That is the assurance of His love for you."



(Above) Children's message time; Heather Ruesch shares her music; conference friends Cheyenna Briggs and Alex Highby relaxing in the hotel pool; Joy and Rev. Norman Wurst, from Australia, attending their first U.S. LFL conference. (Pastor Wurst jokes that he is the "wurst" pastor in Australia!)

Speakers Bureau

Do you need a speaker? Lutherans For Life will work with you to help meet your needs for a speaker at a rally, convention, Bible study, worship service, public or parochial school, college/university, or at a workshop/seminar. A variety of formats are available from a single presentation or sermon to a multi-day series of workshops. Dr. Lamb says, "These speakers not only address a variety of life issues, but do so based on the Word of God."

General speaker guidelines (may vary by individual):

- Airfare/Mileage: Actual airfare and/or current standard IRS mileage rate to airport or event.
- Lodging: Quiet, non-smoking hotel room.
- Honorarium: Affiliated speakers for Lutherans For Life are not in a paid position. Therefore, we ask that sponsoring groups provide an honorarium for affiliated speakers. The sponsoring group determines the amount of the honorarium. Honorariums depend on number of events. Honorariums begin at \$200.
- Meals: \$25 per day unless other arrangements are made.
- Other: A lectern will be needed. A TV, video projector, DVD player, and/or an overhead projector and screen may be needed.

Speakers:

James I. Lamb (nationwide and Canada)

Jean Amundson (nationwide)

Linda D. Bartlett (nationwide)

Tracy L. Carmack (nationwide)

Rev. Paul M. Clark (nationwide)

Connie Davis (nationwide)

Daniel M. Domke (within five to six hours of Huron, South Dakota)

John Eidsmoe (nationwide)

Peter B. Greenspan (within two-three hours of Kansas City)

Anthony Horvath (nationwide)

Kimberly Ketola (nationwide)

Sheila Luck (nationwide)

Ryan C. MacPherson (within 150 miles of Mankato, Minnesota)

Betty McGuire (nationwide)

Allen Quist (within Minnesota and Iowa)

Russell E. Saltzman (nationwide)

Alvin J. Schmidt (nationwide and in Canada)

Carl F. Schroeder (nationwide)

Diane E. Schroeder (nationwide)

Francis W. Szarejko (nationwide)

Ed Szeto (nationwide)

Find out more about these speakers at www.lutheransforlife.org.



Speaking Engagement Report Form

We appreciate the many hours our faithful grassroots workers contribute to sharing the For Life message. If you or your state federation/chapter has the opportunity to speak on the life issues in your community, please let us know! This information will help us as we look at our strategic plan and determine the resources that are most needed to help you carry forth your mission for life! Please return to the Life Center or e-mail jrichard@lutheransforlife.org.

Speaking Engagement Report Form	
Speaker's Name:	Spearing Engagement report 1 or in
Location:	
Date:	
Topic of Presentation:	
Audience presented to (teens, adults, children, etc):	
Number of people in attendance:	
Resources used at presentation (DVD, brochures, articles, etc):	